RECENT CHANGES IN THE NOMENCLATURE OF THREE AUSTRALIAN CONIFERS

The following is a summary of an interesting paper published by Joao do Amaral Franco in Anais do Instituto Superior de Agronomia, Lisbon (Vol. 19, 1952):—

1. Araucaria columnaris (Forst. f.) Hook. & A. heterophylla (Salisb.) Franco. Although G. Forster (1786) quotes New Caledonia and Norfolk Island in the geographical distribution of his Cupressus columnaris, there is no doubt, after examination of the type specimen preserved in the Herbarium of the Dept. of Botany. British Museum (Natural History), London, that the name Cupressus columnaris Forst. f. is based only on the New Caledonian type. The right name for this taxon, when transferred to the genus Araucaria, is A. columnaris (Forst. f.) Hook. (1852). The name Dombeya excelsa Lamb. (1807) is illegitimate, since Lambert quotes the above name of Forster's as a synonym. Lambert's description covers also the Norfolk Island type. This last type, for many years named Araucaria excelsa (Lamb.) R. Br. (1813)—the Norfolk Island Pine—, must be named Araucaria heterophylla (Salisb.) Franco, a new combination based on the older legitimate name. Eutassa heterophylla Salisb. (1807). Franco found also that the names Pinus columbaria Dum.-Cours. (1811) and Abies columbaria (Dum.-Cours.) Dum.-Cours. (1814) belong to the Norfolk Island type although there might be some doubt about the first: but reliable evidence cannot be afforded because the type-specimens could not be found in Paris. These two last specific names are here referred to for the first time.

2. Callitris huegelii (Carr.) Franco.

The species called "C. glauca R. Br." by R. T. Baker & H. G. Smith (1910) cannot have this name, which was not validly published either by Brown or by Mirbel (1825). An older valid name is Frenela huegelii Carr. (1855), from which is here proposed the new combination Callitris huegelii (Carr.) Franco. Since the type of Carrière's Frenela huegelii was supposed to have been collected at Moreton Bay by Leichhardt in 1845, and C. glauca does not occur anywhere near that part of Queensland, there is uncertainty about the correct application of the name C. huegelii.

3. Callitris preissii Miq.

The species, currently known as C. robusta R. Br., must be called C. preissii Miq. (1845), since the first valid publication of the name C. robusta R. Br. was made by F. M. Bailey (1902) for another species, now called C. huegelii (Carr.) Franco.

-P. F. Morris.

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